(c) whether the State Government has proposed a 200 M.T. capacity per day cement factory in the State; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRIARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) According to the information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, lime stone reserves as on 1.4.1995 in the State of Manipur were estimated at 14785 thousand tonnes, mostly of Cement Grade. Of these, proven reserves were 472 thousand tonnes; the rest were in the category of probable/possible reserves. However, viability of setting up of a downstream unit based on minerals available in any region depends on a number of factors like infrastructure support and not only on the availability of the minerals involved.

(c) and (d) The Government of Manipur has submitted a proposal to the North Eastern Council (NEC) for preparing a Techno-economic Feasibility Report for relocation of Hundung Cement Plant and for expanding its capacity to 200 TPD. NEC is examining the proposal.

Development of NER

2647. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the Development of North Eastern Region after the formation of the Ministry;

(b) whether projects have been sanctioned for different States of the Region; and

(c) if so, what are those?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Department of Development of North Eastern Region was created in September, 2001 primarily with the objective of accelerating the pace of socio-economic development of the region. The major thrust areas of the Department for economic development of North East consists of improving the infrastructure; providing greater access to basic social services like education, health, drinking water and sanitation etc.; expanding economic and social opportunities for all; building capacities aimed at increased efficiency;

creating an environment for private participation conducive to growth; and providing a policy environment to positively influence wide ranging economic activities having employment/income generation potential.

(b) Development projects/Schemes of North Eastern States are being funded from various sources. Besides the funds allocated by the respective State Governments in their State Plans, all the Central Ministries/ Departments (except those specifically exempted) are to earmark at least 10% of their budget for developmental programmes in the North Eastern States. Financial assistance is extended also from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) for specific projects/schemes related to physical and social infrastructure. In addition the North Eastern Council (NEC) too has provisions for infrastructure development projects in the Region.

(c) The projects taken up from these various sources of funding relate to development of physical and social infrastructure, especially education, health, drinking water, basic sanitation, electrification, road transport, communication, manpower development, flood control, tourism, capacity building, etc.

PSUs for Disinvestment

†2648. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have selected those PSUs for disinvestment where production has almost stopped but Government expenditure is still being incurred;

(b) if so, the names of those PSUs;

(c) the details of the assessment made with regard to their movable and immovable properties; and

(d) the amount collected as a result of their disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Disinvestment in public sector undertakings is being undertaken as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.